Provision of power Generators for industries

2805. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a plan has been drawn up to prevail upon medium sized industries to have their own generators for power generation;

(b) whether Government had made arrangement to provide adequate generators to the medium sized industries;

(c) whether any subsidy has been granted by the Central Government to States for onward passing to industries to have the generators; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (d) There is no plan with the Department of Power to prevail upon medium-sized industries to instal their own generators and to provide subsidy to the States for onward passing to industries for this purpose.

State authorities are competent to permit captive power plants upto a capacity of 25 MW; for captive power plants of capacities exceeding 25 MW, consultation with the Central Electricity Authority is necessary. Indigenous industry is, by and large, in a position to meet the demand of generators for power production.

Allotment of kerosene to Maharashtra

2806. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the monthly allocation of kerosene to Maharashtra during 1985 and what is the actual lifting of kerosene during that period;

(b) what is the basis of allocation of kerosene to that State;

(c) what is the demand of Maharashtra for monthly allocation expected in 1986 and what will be the allotment, whether Government propose to meet Maharashtra's requirements of kerosene;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Kerosene allocations and supplies made to Maharashtra during 1985 are as under:

(Figures in tonnes)

Month	Allocations	Sales
January	92,400	93,002
February	95,400	94,292
March	84,360	84,543
April	84,160	83,469
May	83,160	83,124
June	83,160	81,408
July	89,530	89,811
August	89,530	88,870
September	90,500	89,933
October	89,530	89,982 (Prov.)
November	99,330	N.A.
December	99,330	—

(b) to (e) The requirement of Kerosene of States/Union Territories including Maharashtra is assessed by allowing a 5 per cent growth over the allocation made during the corresponding period of the previous year on four-month-block basis and allocations are made accordingly. Besides the regular allocations, additional ad-hoc releases are also made to meet specific situations like flood, drought, cyclone, shortage of LPG/soft coke, etc.

2. Allocation of 99,330 tonnes per month has been made to Maharashtra for

January and February, 1986. Allocations during the remaining part of 1986 will be made on the basis mentioned above. As in the past, the oil marketing companies will endeavour to supply the allocated quantities to Maharashtra.

Power projects for Maharashtra

2807. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many power projects have been approved by the Central Government for which the Government of Maharashtra had submitted project reports|feasibility reports so far; and

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in approving these projects and how long would it take to finally approve them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Thirteen power projects have been approved for implementation in Maharashtra during the last five years (since 1980). In addition, the scheme for installation of Waste Heat Recovery Unit has been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) Five hydro and three thermal schemes received from Maharashtra are under appraisal in the Central Electricity Authority. The time taken for final clearance|approval would depend upon the response from the State authorities in furnishing replies to the comments of Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission, preparation of revised project reports, availability of essential inputs and the availability of requisite funds.

Areas prone to subsidence after closure of coal mines

2808. SHRI K. VASUDEV PANICKER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the areas in Bihar and other parts of the country which are prone to subsidence and have been abandoned after the closure of coal mines; if so, the total acreage of such areas; and

(b) what steps the Central Government are taking to make such areas safe for habitation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Committee on safety in Coal Mines appointed by Government of India, in its report in August, 1979, observed that a danger from subsidence is apprehended in 166 collieries under Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Central Coalfields Limited, Eastern Coalfields Limited, Western Coalfields Limited. The following steps have been taken to make subsidence prone areas safe for habitation:

(1) Flling up of the pot holes on the surface as and when they occur.

(2) Stabilisation of the underground workings to the extent possible.

(3) Strict enforcement of Mines Act, Rules, Regulations and bye-laws made thereunder.

(4) Strict compliance with the conditions stipulated by Director General of Mines Safety in depillaring operation.

(5) Depillaring in conjunction with stowing, partial extraction etc.

Pricing of gas

2809. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANIKER: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision on the issue of pricing of gas for various uses; and

(b) if so, the details of the decision taken?